

MINUTES
WILLMAR POLICE COMMISSION
Tuesday, September 24, 2019

A meeting of the Willmar Police Civil Service Commission was held on Tuesday, September 24, 2019, at the Law Enforcement Center in Willmar.

Present were Police Civil Service Commission members: President Mike Kubesh, Vice President Earline Schulstad, and Secretary Dennis Anfinson. Police Chief Jim Felt, Captain Mike Anderson and Administrative Assistant Sue Edwards were also present.

The meeting was called to order by President Kubesh at 9:29 a.m.

A motion was made by Commissioner Anfinson, seconded by Commissioner Schulstad, to approve the May 21, 2019 minutes as submitted. **Motion carried.**

Chief Felt explained that three new officers are currently going through the field training program; the first began in June, the second in July, and the third in August. He informed the Commission that two candidates have been integrating well.

Chief Felt informed the Commission that one candidate has been with three different field training officers, and gave a synopsis of some of the concerns that have been brought up with this employee. There have been communication issues, command presence, with the main concern being character issues. Chief Felt said it would be his recommendation, and the recommendation of the Field Training Officers, that the candidate not be authorized to continue FTO training and to end employment within the probationary period. After further discussion, Commissioner Anfinson made a motion that the probationary employee be separated from the Willmar Police Department, seconded by Commissioner Schulstad. **Motion carried.**

Chief Felt explained there are still two police officer openings that need to be filled. After discussing the backgrounds on the candidates whose names were previously certified to the appointing authority, Commissioner Schulstad made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Anfinson, to make the recommendation that conditional offers be made to Zachary Lueders and Noah Maschino, upon successful completion of psychological and physical testing. **Motion carried.**

Chief Felt informed the Commission that with the removal of the probationary officer, there would be a third position that would need to be filled. Commissioner Anfinson made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Schulstad, to send out a background packet to the next person on the eligibility list. **Motion carried.**

Chief Felt then updated the Commission on the following:

- Officers Kelsey Lloyd and Joe Schaeftbauer have completed their one-year probationary period. Final evaluations were completed and it is the Chief's recommendation that they be retained as full-time police officers.
- CSO Ethan Schwinghammer resigned at the end of August to accept a position as a police officer in Appleton, MN. Rachel Mork was hired at the beginning of September as a CSO to fill that position. The Chief explained that being short police officers, it has been very beneficial to keep six CSOs with the department.
- With the shortage of officers, the Gang unit is down to one member, and the department is looking at some changes within the unit; one being renaming it to the "Street Crimes Unit". Once the department is back up to full staff, the other position on that unit will be replaced.
- Officer Ben Hanneman will be going to the Detective Unit once all of the new officers have been through field training, as Officer Hanneman is one of the Field Training Officers. This will probably be sometime in the spring.

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Kubesh, seconded by Commissioner Schulstad. The meeting was adjourned at 10:00 a.m.

Secretary Dennis Anfinson
by Sue Edwards